--For Immediate Release--

From the Office of U.S. Congressman Joe Wilson

Representing the Second Congressional District of South Carolina

April 30, 2003

Wilson Condemns Terrorist Attack in Tel Aviv

Calls on New Palestinian Leader to Disarm Terror Groups

Washington, D.C. - Today, Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) made the following remarks on the House Floor:

"Mr. Speaker, Mahmoud Abbas, also known as Abu Mazen, was approved yesterday as the first Palestinian Prime Minister. Hours before he was sworn in, a suicide bomber blew himself up at a popular nightclub known as Mike's Place, located right beside the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. At least three people were killed and thirty injured, including an American.

"The world's attention is now focused on the new Palestinian leader, Abu Mazen. He has denounced terrorism, but words are not enough. Mazen must do everything possible to disarm terrorist groups, such as Hamas and the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, that are doing everything possible to derail the peace process.

"President George W. Bush has a vision for the Middle East, a plan that was delivered this morning, where Israelis and Palestinians live side-by-side in peace. We must not let terrorists thwart the important peace process that is now underway.

"In conclusion, God bless our troops," said Rep. Wilson.

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